

June 2015

Volume 18, Issue 4

2015 Schedule of Meetings:

June 3rd,
July 8 (due to July 1st being
Canada Day), Aug. 5th,
Sept. 2nd, Oct. 7th, Nov.
4th, and Dec. 2nd.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.,
meeting starts 7 p.m., at the
Rockwood Public Library
(inside Eramosa
Community Centre) at 85
Christie Street (near corner
Christie Street and Main
Street North Wellington
Road 27, Rockwood, On.
NoB 2K0.

2015 Annual Membership Fee:

Regular \$10
Couple \$12
Junior (14 to age 18) \$5
Under 14 Free

Membership / Treasurer Contact:

c/o: Scott Douglas, 273 Mill
St. E., Acton, On. L7J 1J7,

Ph: (519) 853-3812, E-mail:
sdouglas333@gmail.com

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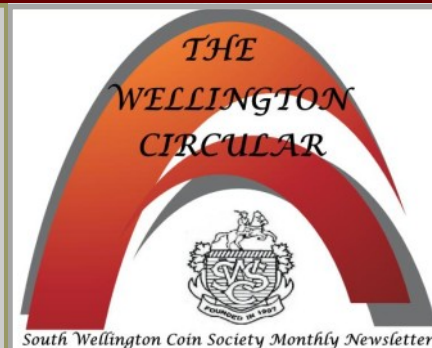


South Wellington
Coin Society

founded
in 1997



NEXT MEETING DATE:
WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 3RD, 2015
DOORS OPEN 6 P.M.
MEETING STARTS **7 P.M.**
THEME: WELLINGTON 175TH



Editor's Message

Our next meeting is Wednesday, **JUNE 3rd, 2015 AT **7 P.M.** (DOORS OPEN 6 P.M.)!**
Theme is **BOTH PIZZA MONTH AND EDUCATIONAL.**

Mike Hollingshead shared, "Due to popular demand, **Scott Douglas** will be presenting a 20 minute PowerPoint on '**The Medals of Dr Bernardo**'. Many of us have family members who draw their lines from Dr Bernardo of England. **Mike Hollingshead's** maternal grandmother was a Bernardo child! Her destitute beginnings in England in the later 1800's led to her coming to Canada for a new start in life.

Pizza will be brought in for our break-time and served up free to members and guests. Not a surprise, just as our usual break period refreshments and snacks are gratis! There will be a no-cheese pizza and a vegetarian included in the varieties so come on out! Yes, we are serving the food but we are treating you to an educational presentation also!

The change-up in speaker is due to the inability of the County of Wellington to step up to the plate regarding the celebration of the founding of The District of Wellington. **Mike** shared, "I must say the SWCS is most disappointed in the lethargy and inactivity on the part of some governing bodies within the county to act. Despite this lethargy, the SWCS will be forging ahead (or more accurately, striking ahead because it is a medal!) with our own celebration of all things Wellington. Strangely enough the lion's share of Wellington celebration in the county is due to the SWCS participation in displays, medallic offerings and promotion."

From **Scott Douglas**, "Because the medals are 2-1/2 inch diameter (1/4" thick) the die cost are significant — however, we consider this an investment, as the Wellington bust die could be used for future medals. We have a metal composition choice of Copper, Commercial Bronze or Brass. Member were asked at our May meeting to let me know if they will order a medal, and if you were still deciding, please contact me before or at the June meeting, as the order is going in. We are trying to keep the price of the medal to \$60 each. I expect to have a prototype for our June meeting."

Actual Size.....



**Meeting Set-up /
Clean-up:**
Club Members present at
meeting

**Food & Beverages at
Meetings:**
Mel Brown

Auction Runner:
Len Kuenzig

**Newsletter
Editor**



Editor & Website

Liaison: Judy Blackman,
F.O.N.A.

E-mail:
jblackman@rogers.com

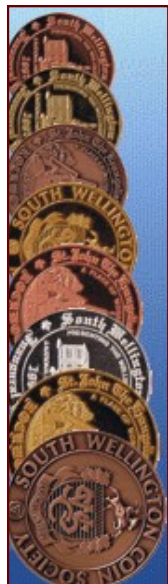
Postal mail:
SWCS –Editor c/o
505 Redfox Rd., Waterloo, On.
N2K 2V6

Send pictures in jpg, files in doc,
xls, pdf, wpd, or email body.

Articles of the upcoming
newsletters are due to the Editor
by no later than the 15th of the
current month.

Advertising space will be
accommodated where space is
available.

SWCS:
Was founded in March 1997.



SWCS **NEW EXECUTIVE: proposed slated announced at
May 2015 meeting, confirmation at June 2015 meeting.**

**Thank you to our Nomination Committee of
Lowell Wierstra and Mel Brown!**

Term of Office: July 1, 2015—June 30, 2018 (3 yrs)

Board of Directors (elected)

(sets officers guidelines, but not involved in day-to-day operations EXCEPT responsible for ALL education programs and looks after ALL contracts for venues and insurance)

Chairman / Director: Scott Douglas

Directors: Mel Brown, Len Kuenzig (lenkuenzig@yahoo.ca, 905-824-4893), John Semedo, Lowell Wierstra (ljwierstra@rogers.com, 519-824-6534)

Director Emeritus: Robert Zmija (Lifetime Member #1)

Director of Youth Services: Peter Horne-Dues (YN)

Officers (elected)

(run the day-to-day operations)

President: Scott Douglas, sdouglas333@gmail.com, 519-853-3812
(also is club archivist, historian, and looks after medals)

Past-President: John Semedo, johnsemedo99@gmail.com, 519-821-6379

Vice-President: Mike Hollingshead, cholling@uoguelph.ca, 519-823-2646

Treasurer: Scott Douglas

(includes all revenues generated from membership dues, meeting, and shows; and looks after advertising)

Secretary: Judy Blackman, jblackman@rogers.com
(includes flyers, other club notices, newsletters, public website liaison, private website webmaster, executive agendas and minutes)

Other Non-Elected IMPORTANT Club Roles

ALL Multi-Media Needs: John Semedo

ALL Draws and Membership Meeting Notes: John Semedo and Mike Hollingshead

Show Bourse: Mike Hollingshead and Lowell Wierstra

**Auction Chairman: Lowell Wierstra / Auctioneers:
Mike Hollingshead and Scott Douglas**

**“Giving Back to Community” Liaison:
Heather Horne-Dues**

**Hospitality, Mall Days and Kids’ Programs & Mentors:
Mel Brown and Charles Turton**



Club Report & News reported by Mike Hollingshead

Here's SWCS May 6, 2015 meeting report :

We had 25 present include 1 YN and his brother. SWCS presented our newest *Director of Youth Services* **Peter H-D** with a Portuguese coin donated by our chronic show participant **Andy Grecco**. **Andy** has always been a dealer ready to help out Guelph and a long time attendee at his tables in Guelph. **Peter** worked the Young Numismatists Table at the show and helped out all day, and he also worked our Education booth at the mall. We hope he enjoyed these days and found the experience rewarding. Picture courtesy of **Judy Blackman**. The movie Peter is in is being released in a few weeks on TV.



Speakers / Presentations:

MAY'S EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION



Our Editor and Secretary **Judy Blackman** made the trip out from **Waterloo** with husband **Aubyn** to provide us with a captivating talk on "A Deceased Icon of Canadian Retailing: Eatons" (which reached over 9,000 employees). **Judy** enhanced her talk with a quantity of items from her personal collection of Eatonography and some borrowed from fellow archival expert **Scott Douglas**. Many members of the audience

pipled in with stories of Eaton experiences. My own grandfather was a printer in Eaton's printing shop and proofread both the French and English catalogs prior to their publication. **Scott's** mother (**Joan Miskimmin**) worked in the Eaton's College Street store in the late 1940's. She worked in various departments but mostly 'white collar' stuff such as accounts, etc. His grandmother (**Norma Allison**) also worked in the area selling tea services and china. Now **Heather** lived on Denison Road (Weston and Jane is the closest intersection), and it was the **Moffat's** house that the had to split in order to build the Eaton's 2-large square blocks store. Moffat also made gas stoves (1907 is pictured here), but **Heather** is not sure if they made them for Eaton's or not. Moffat Appliances Canada still operates today but is part of W. C. Wood. As the Eaton's business prospered, Eaton moved its store one block north in August 1883 into much larger premises at 190 Yonge Street. The new store boasted the biggest plate-glass windows in Toronto, the first electric lights in any Canadian store, three full floors of retail space featuring 35 departments, and a lightwell that ran the full-length of the store. The store's first telephone, with phone number 370, was installed in 1885. In 1886, the first elevator in a retail establishment in Toronto was installed in the Eaton store (although only customers going up were invited to use the elevator, thus requiring them to pass by the various store displays on their walk down). Eaton maintained the lease on the empty store at 178 Yonge Street until its expiry in 1884 in order to delay the expansion plans of one of his competitors, Robert Simpson. Over time, the competition between the Simpson's and Eaton's department stores, facing each other across Queen Street West, became one of Toronto's great business rivalries. **Judy** used a Powerpoint format for her talk. Thank you for sharing **Judy** and all who chimed in.



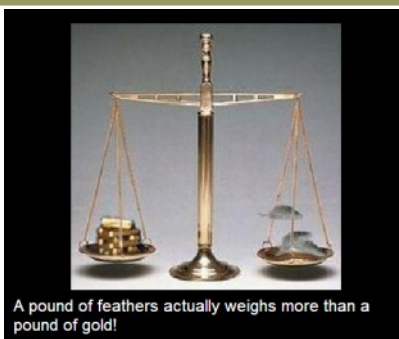
Road to Recovery and Gold'n'Feathers

Glad to see **Fred Freeman** is home from St. Joseph's Hospital (London) and on the road to recovery. **Fred** has served both the ONA and RCNA in various roles over the year, but most noticeable has been the wonderful work he did for the CoinKids program.

Fred advised that the Woodstock Coin Club recently explained how a pound of feathers weighs more than a pound of gold. "The answer is supposed to be neither, because both would be a pound, yet that answer is technically incorrect. Gold is universally weighed using a different measurement

Club Report & News continued

system than most other materials. It is weighed using the troy system, and troy ounces. This system is measured so that 12 troy ounces makes up 5,760 grains to the pound, while the common measurement for feathers would make them equal to 7,000 grains to the pound. Thus, a standard pound of feathers technically weighs more than a pound of gold!"

**May Draw Winners:**

- **Members Draw:** I suppose that despite the Maple Leafs being idle, **Adrian Zmija** was following another team's defeat? He wasn't at SWCS's May meeting when his name was called so the June meeting will be a draw for \$15.
- **King Arthur's Treasure:** was a total of 92 items was won by a lucky **Peter H-D**.
- **Door Prize Draws:** Prizes totalled 11 items ranging from a bag full of numismatic catalogs and books, a bundle of Timothy Eaton Co. collectibles, an scalloped bowl loaded with world coins (big thank you to **Judy Blackman** for donation of both these items), Canadian PL sets and dollars. The Lucky winners were: visitor **James** (a student), Snowbird **Gary George**, **Doug Wilson**, our favorite Recycler **Lowell Wierstra**, **James'** brother **Peter H-D**, WCS's newest exec member **Freddie Barsoum** who won twice but donated a prize back, **Peter Becker**, Past-past-past President **Gordon Parker** was also blessed. Thank you to all those who participated, winners who shared their luck with others and the losers who might change their luck soon.

Monthly Auction:

Our May meeting items which were "proceeds to club" resulted in **\$66** raised for the SWCS. Thank you all for your support!

The commission charged to consignors: Sold for under \$20, auction fee is 25 cents and items sold for over \$20 fee is \$1. Pretty simple. No buyers premium, no sales tax. Bring your items to consign to the meeting or contact **Lowell Wierstra** at ljwierstra@rogers.com or phone 519-824-6534! Please use the new consignment form. SWCS recently purchased 3 collections from the estates of 3



non-SWCS members, and we look forward to offering you a wider variety of items during the 2015 year.

Help Requested:

Please let **Scott Douglas** (sdouglas333@gmail.com, 519-853-3812) know if you have a reputable contact who can engrave lettering and the beaver motif like the attached medal. It is NOT a 'struck' medal engraver being sought, but a freehand engraver. We have already reached out to the Metallic Art Society of Canada, and also to **Susan Taylor**, Senior Engraver at the Royal Canadian Mint. Possibly you know a jeweller or artistic medallist or company that does this type of work?

**The May 29-30, 2015 Toronto Coin Expo supported Coin Kids!**

In addition to the Coin Kids table at the TCE spring show, **Chris Boyer** (Waterloo Coin Society Vice-President), who over 20 years has been a key supporter of the kids programs, was a speaker teaching kids about collecting coins, tokens, medals and banknotes. The goal of the Coin Kids free symposium was to get Boy Scouts and Girl Guides involved, helping them earn their collector badges. The second symposium was led by the Canadian Centennial Coin Club's **Len Kuenzig**, who is also a South Wellington Coin Society Director. **Len** spoke about collecting centennial ephemera from around Canada. He also reviewed the first published book on centennial medals written by **Jack Roberts**, **Stanley Hayduk** and **Brian Thomson**. The fall expos is Oct. 2-3, 2015, learn more at canadiancoinnews.com/event/toronto-coin-expo. Each workshop provided the kids with a starter set of coin holders and a page to begin the collection. **Len** describes the CCCC as a fun and lively club to join. It's almost as great as SWCS!

Sharing Education in the West: On May 11, **Scott Douglas** travelled to the Windsor Coin Club to give a Hudson's Bay Co. presentation before about 60 in attendance which included about 5-6 Young Numismatists.

New Websites: The Edmonton Numismatic Society is reverse engineering their website. They just had over 1,100 in attendance at their spring show – a show that's long been considered the largest in Canada. Stratford Coin Club has now has their first website, and it's really quite appealing, see www.stratfordcoinclub.ca! The Knights of St. Eligius now have a website www.KStE.ca.

If Only We Could Learn How To Harness That Energy! by Scott E. Douglas

This Fellow of the ONA Award winner for 2015 has only been involved in organized numismatics for about a decade. Since joining her home club, Waterloo Coin Society, she has rapidly expanded her circle of clubs and organizations to over 20, including life membership in the RCNA. She has also accomplished an unbelievable number of tasks and achieved milestones that would overwhelm most others. These include serving as webmaster for the Waterloo Coin Society, ONA, and Canada Wide Woods, and recently South Wellington Coin Society public website liaison and private 'members only' site webmaster, and now Knights of St. Eligius webmaster. She also was webmaster for Your Canadian Coin Connection and Kids Coin World for many years, and will likely regenerate these sites in the near future. Judy Blackman is still the webmaster for Woodsy Corner which hosts sites for three other associations who are not quite large enough to have their own site. She also regularly prepares displays, gives talks for WCS and SWCS, has provided presentation educational disks to Len Trakalo (ONA), and has served for several years on the WCS and ONA executive, and recently joined the SWCS executive.

Judy has exhibited during mall education days and at local conventions winning several awards, and has served as numismatic photographer on several occasions. Judy routinely provides club door prizes for any club she attends and often refreshments too, she frequently donates her custom woods to CAWMC for monthly features, she designed the Stratford Coin Club 50th Anniversary medal, and recently has designed her own St. Eligius medal (minted by Alan Trammel of Pressed Medal), and sent at least 2 tokens and challenge coins each club across Canada to use for their Young Numismatists' programs and prizes. Volunteering and donating materials for one of her passions, the Coin Kids program is near and dear to her heart. Judy researches her collection, interviews numismatic personalities, prepares show and other event flyers, helps out numismatists in transition to long-term care when called, and helps folks connect to viable sources for research, networking, and other needs. She has been referred to as the person to go to if you need help finding something or finding a person to help you (for examples, just ask the Australia Numismatic Society). She has contributed articles to various club newsletters, as well as the ONA *Numismatist*, RCNA *CN Journal* and *Numis Notes*, *Canadian Coin News*. She has helped at local convention, and in the past has served the ONA arranging the advertising and preparing the convention souvenir programme, as well as securing items for the registration kits.

A few years ago William "Bill" Waychison, the serving RCNA Club Services Chair, asked if she would help while Bill was working in the Northwest Territories (mostly in the Yukon where they had to communicate with each other by SKYPE) by serving as guest writer for Bill's Club News column for the *CN Journal*. She accepted this assignment without hesitation for the five issues while Bill was away. When Dan Gosling commented in the *CN Journal* that some clubs may need assistance preparing a newsletter, she again answered the call without hesitation, contacted numerous clubs, and offered her services to over nine clubs (not just in Ontario, for example she was Editor for the Manitoba Coin Club for over three years). For four of the clubs she was newsletter editor, she also contacted all members who had not been paid up in their dues and others who had not been out to a meeting for a long time, and got them to return with a 85% plus success rate. She also wrote a photo-plenty four-part history on the Brantford Numismatic Society in honour of their 50th Anniversary and ensured it was available to every member. When the RCNA sought an editor for their new electronic newsletter, Judy stepped forward and served as the founding editor of *Numis Notes* from November 2010 to March 2013. When that position again became vacant, she stepped up to the plate and has continued to serve as interim editor of *Numis Notes* since January 2015. When the ONA *Numismatist* content editor role opened up, she stepped forward to help Henry Nienhuis, layout editor, by sourcing articles for him, as well as writing some of her own. She also helped two clubs convert to electronic newsletters, and when two editors had medical family emergencies, she stepped in to fill their shoes until the crisis was over.

If gives me great pleasure to announce, Judy Blackman, as the newest Fellow of the ONA Award winner for 2015!

Fellow of the ONA Award winner for 2015.

*Kudos to Scott Douglas
May 6, 2015 at the
South Wellington Coin Society
meeting meeting in
Rockwood, Ontario

Congratulations Judy!
Well deserved!!
Scott Douglas

Photo courtesy of Heather Horne-Dues, L>R Scott Douglas (ONA Education Chair), Peter Becker (ONA 1st VP), Judy Blackman, Sean Sinclair (ONA Area Director).



2016 ONA Convention Medal Contest by Peter Becker

The Waterloo Coin Society (WCS) is hosting the 2016 ONA Convention, and as a result, WCS is holding a medal design contest open to any member of the Ontario Numismatic Association (ONA) or of the WCS. Entries must be received no later than the August 11, 2015, WCS meeting. The decision for medal design selection will be made by the ONA convention committee and will be final. The winning designer will be notified by September 1, 2015, and will receive a lead splash of the medal (the only other lead splash will be in the ONA Archives). In accepting your design as the winning design, you are granting the ONA exclusive rights to the design; and agree that the design and any derivative works, can be used for, but not limited to, the medal and any promotional materials produced by or on behalf of the ONA.

How To Make A Design Submission:

- Each entry MUST represent only ONE design. There is no limit to the number of entries that you can submit. Designed submitted by WCS members in previous years' ONA design competition may be updated and submitted again this year.
- All entries shall include a short write-up explaining the meaning of the design as well as artwork of sufficient detail to give the judging committee a clear idea of the proposed design elements, legend and layout. Submissions can be made physically or electronically.
- Entries shall include artwork of approximately 6-inches in diameter, in a least one of the following formats:
- Line drawing, freehand or otherwise, clearly depicting the design elements
- 'Paste-up' image including the proposed image and legend
- Please remember we are not judging the artistic competence of the submission material itself, rather its potential as struck in a medal, suitably engraved by a master engraver from the chosen minting facility. The material must be of sufficient detail to give the engraver suitable guidance to execute your design.
- Submissions made by persons under the age of majority (18) must be accompanied by a custodial parent or legal guardian's signed consent.

Final Medal Specifications:

The final medal will be 38mm in diameter, the silver weighing approximately one-ounce and struck with a proof-like finish. The design elements will have a 3-Dimensional cameo (frosted) appearance against mirror-like fields. The medal composition for the souvenir medals (the number of which is yet to be determined) is like to be any of Silver, Cartridge Brass and Copper or Commercial Bronze. The OBERSE will feature the ONA arms design used since 1962.

Guidelines To Help You Create A Successful Design:

Celebrate the WCS or something relating to the Waterloo Region. Contain main design element(s), which appear 3-dimensional in nature; with reasonably *high* but NOT ultra-high relief features. The lettering above will be "54th Annual O.N.A. Convention" and below "Waterloo Coin Society." Include within the design the dates and location of the convention, "April 8-10, 2016 – Kitchener, Ontario."

Design Must Be NEW:

The following designs have been used for past WCS hosted shows, and should not be repeated:

- 1962 WCS Crest and ONA Crest
- 1967 Coat of Arms of the City of Waterloo
- 1968 Coat of Arms of the City of Kitchener
- 1973 Region of Waterloo Government Crest showing maple leaf with stylized W
- 1990 Mutual Group Head Office
- 1999 Mennonite family in buggy (RCNA)
- 2009 Updated 1973 design with 50th Anniversary dating
- 2013 Via Rail Train Station



Giving Back To The Community! by Heather Horne-Dues

Come on out on Monday, June 8, 2015 for a “**Quarter Auction at Rockmosa**” in support of the Rockwood Nursery School. In a nutshell, here’s how it works:

1. 12 vendors set up their wares at Rockmosa.
2. Attendees (150 or so) buy \$5 tickets to the event, which gives them a numbered auction paddle (a corresponding numbered chip is then put into a central basket).
3. In four auction "rounds" each vendor showcases a prize (their product—\$25-\$50 value). Attendees can "bid" on the prize by placing quarters in a basket on their table, which enables them to hold up their paddle.
4. A number is then drawn from the central basket for the prize. If you're number is drawn and you put quarters in, you WIN! Each round showcases each vendor. (4 rounds x 12 vendors)

The proceeds from each round are divided between vendors and the charity at hand (in this case, Rockwood Nursery School is the charity). Vendors also are able to sell items / book parties, etc. in the half hour /hour before the auction begins, while attendees mill about the hall. Super fun night out, for sure!



EWCS HAS A NEW LOOK!! [CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE - WWW.EASTWELLINGTONCOMMUNITYSERVICES.COM](http://WWW.EASTWELLINGTONCOMMUNITYSERVICES.COM)

As I shared with the members present at our May meeting, here’s another letter from **Andrea Le Grand**, Co-ordinator Community Support, Rockwood, East Wellington Community Services:

“Hi Heather

I just wanted to check in with you and see how everything is going? I hope all is well and that you are enjoying your new job.

I just handed out the last of the Wal-Mart gift cards this past week. I was able to stretch them out, and I know our clients really enjoyed being able to go out and shop for what they needed.

Thank you again for organizing the coin collector donation. We really appreciated it. Wishing you all the best!

Andrea”



Find Your Good Friends At Our Coin Shows!!!

We were happy to see **Larry Newton** (Clifford, Ontario) out — he’s pictured here with **Scott Douglas**. Centre is our good buddy, who volunteer several hours — wearing the Goetz vest is **Eddie Weisblatt**. The “young guy” in the plaid holding a Legion pen, is **Hugh Land**, grandfather of **Robert Land** the silver-seeking shoemaker.



South Wellington Coin Society

MEETING DATE CHANGE

Wednesday, July 8, 2015 **7 p.m.**



Due to Canada Day Holiday, SWCS will meet one week later in July.

SAME LOCATION: Older Adults Centre, inside Rockwood Library building, 85 Christie Street (near the corner of Christie Street and Main Street North Wellington Road 27, Rockwood, N0B 2K0)

****FREE** parking

****FREE** beverages and snacks

****FREE** educational presentation (Canadian Centennial Coin Club's Len Kuenzig, who is also a South Wellington Coin Society Director will speak about collecting centennial ephemera from around Canada, and will give an update on the CCCC's project for Canada's 150th.)

****FREE** smiles, fun and laughter



Thomas Kater Pianoforte Manufacturer

Did You Know... that the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, held May 10 – November 10, 1876, was the largest exhibition held in North America up to that time? More than 30,000 displays represented the fifty American States and 46 countries. Canada was afforded 25,133 square feet of space in the Main building, the largest building covering more than 21 acres at 464 feet in width and 1,880 feet in length. There were many different products displayed by larger Canadian manufacturers and small independent producers as well. One of the smaller enterprises was Thomas Kater, a maker of the pianoforte, from Hamilton, Ontario.



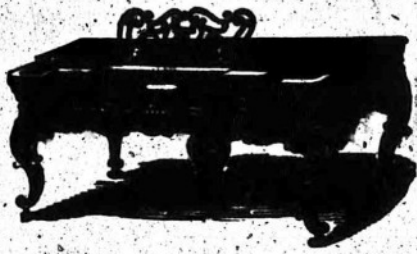
Thomas Kater was born in Quebec in 1829. It is unclear how or when Kater came to be in the business of manufacturing pianos but there is evidence that shows he was involved in pianoforte 'improvements' as early as age 21. Kater is known to have been a piano maker as early as 1857 because he was awarded a silver medal at the Syracuse Mechanics Association exhibition.



Thomas Kater award for **Best Piano Forte 1857** from the Syracuse Mechanics Association. This silver medal was engraved by George H. Lovett of New York a well known and prolific manufacturer and diesinker.

Kater appears in MacKay's Montreal directory of 1861 as a *piano forte maker*, 6 Linley's Buildings, Busby Lane. By 1864 Kater has relocated to the corner of St. Mary and Grant St. in Montreal. Kater's most productive years appear to have been between 1870 and 1880 when he was located in Hamilton, Ontario. Thomas Kater's business was situated at 262-264 York St. in Hamilton.

WEST END PIANOFORTE FACTORY,



**262 and 264 YORK STREET,
HAMILTON, ONTARIO.**

THOS. KATER,

Begs to inform the public that he has commenced to manufacture Pianos with some important improvements that have not yet been introduced, and kindly solicits a call from the citizens and public generally.

He has the agency for the celebrated English Piccolo and Cottage Piano made expressly for this climate.

N.B.—All Musical Instruments taken in exchange.

One of the above improvements is the **PATENT AGRAFFE** for stringing instruments.

KATER'S
IMPROVED
PIANO



1876. 1876.

PATENTED
JANUARY 21st, 1873.
DECEMBER 27th, 1873.
DECEMBER 29th, 1873.
—AND—
APRIL 14th, 1874.

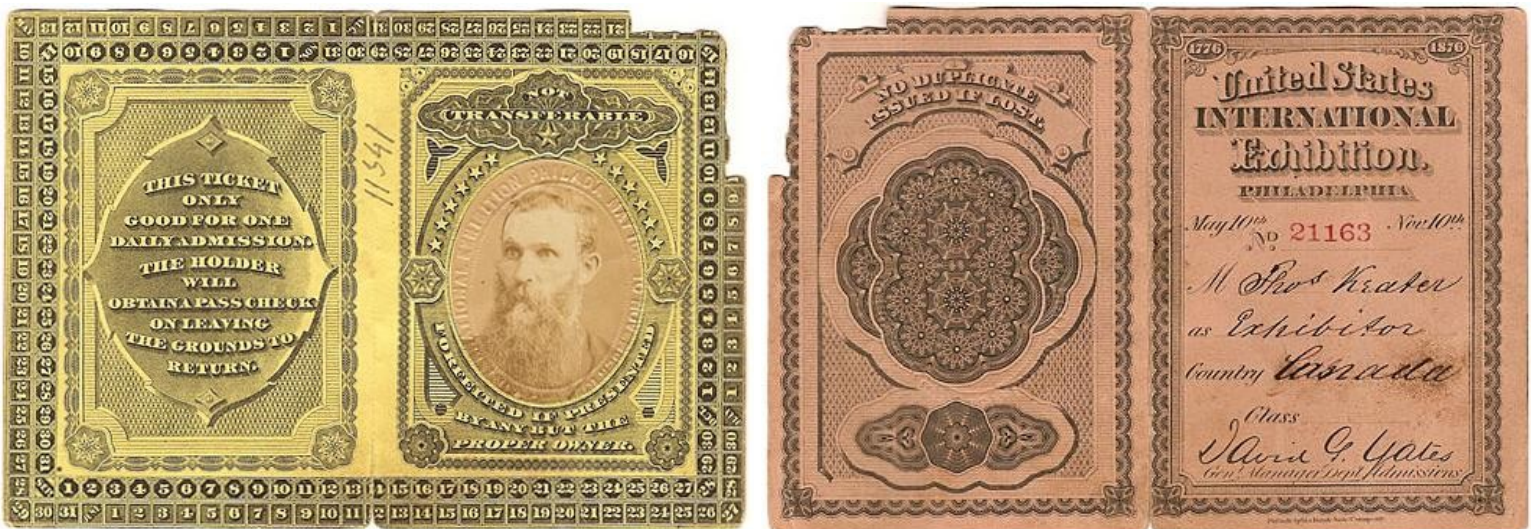
While in Hamilton, Kater applied for and was granted four separate patents for improvements of his piano. In a leaflet that was handed out at his display at the Centennial Exhibition Kater lists his 'patented' dates. Kater was also granted a patent on Aug. 13, 1880.

370. Pianos.—T. Kater, Hamilton.

Mr. Kater has been for the past twenty-five years engaged in making improvements in the pianoforte. He says, "his attention was first directed to the sounding board, which being fastened to the instrument with several supporters, destroys in a great measure the vibration of the sounding board. He has succeeded in making a board free from these defects by constructing it on a more suspended and self-supporting principle, and thus produces a greater amount of vibration, resulting in a prolonged singing tone not hitherto obtained.

In addition to the improvement of the sounding board, he has a much improved scale, giving more space to the working of the hammers; this improved agraffe has both an upward and downward bearing for use on the sounding board curved bridge, which prevents the instrument from getting out of tune from any other cause than the ordinary stretching of the wires.

In the souvenir catalogue of 'Canada at the Centennial Exhibition' this short write up gives some explanation of Kater and his enthusiasm for improvements on the pianoforte.



Thomas Kater's admission ticket, personalized with his photo, tells us that he attended the exhibition in person from July 10th to July 20th.



Bronze Dominion of Canada medal
reads;
*Exhibition Phila. / 1876 / Th.
Kater / Hamilton / Piano*



The Canadian Commission, with the intention of affording inducements to Canadian exhibitors at the Centennial Exhibition offered Gold, Silver and Bronze medals as prizes with the promise that the awards of such medals would be made by foreign judges. The Commission appealed to the British Commissioners to aid with this task. The request was well received and the assistance of 18 British Judges".....accepted with pleasure the proposal made to them to award special medals to the Canadian exhibitors". In the category of **Musical Instruments** 2 silver and 4 bronze medals were awarded by the British Judge - Sir Charles Reed. Thomas Kater received one of these in bronze.

In the early 1880's the piano manufacturing industry changed dramatically. The onset of the Industrial Revolution saw the beginning of mass production of the piano. New ways to produce and assemble a piano became easier and faster. Interchangeable parts along with assembly line techniques and reusable cutout templates made the expertise and ingenuity of a Thomas Kater no longer a viable skill. An assembly line piano could be made available quicker and cheaper to the average household. Prices plummeted. Sadly, Thomas Kater found himself unable to compete.

In 1882 Kater moved his family to Toronto, Ontario and became a repair man for A&S Nordheimer, later to be one of the assembly line manufacturers. Between 1890 and 1920 Nordheimer produced approximately 25,000 pianos in their factory. They were just one of many.

Comment:

Just before Thomas Kater died his 22 year old daughter Sara Belle was married in 1882. Three years later Thomas became a Grandfather as his daughter gave birth to a girl, Sara Isabella, in 1885. Thomas Kater's joy would be short lived as he died on April 5, 1888. Thomas was only 59 years old. The death certificate states cause of death as a bowel obstruction and he passed away in one week. Personally, I suspect he may have lost his enthusiasm for life as virtually everything around him was reduced to nothing. With the exception of his family all he had worked so hard and so passionately for was gone.

Tragically, in October 1888 just six months after Thomas died, his now 28 year old daughter died leaving behind a husband, a baby girl and a mother, Thomas's wife Sarah Ann Kater. Sarah Ann lived to be 87 years old passing away in June of 1913. Cause of death was listed as senility.

Today, with the exception of his medals and photo admission ticket, there is nothing to indicate Thomas Kater was ever on this earth. An example of a piano built by Kater appears to be nonexistent. Today, some Canadian piano researchers know his name but they know absolutely nothing about him. When Thomas Kater was laid to rest it was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, a large Toronto cemetery visited daily by many joggers, dog walkers and researchers. Thomas Kater and his family are buried in Plot F, Section 06 Lot 08. Sadly, this location is now a bare spot of dirt with no marker or indication that a man who loved the piano and its music ever existed.



Mount Pleasant Cemetery

Plot F, Section 06, Lot 08
where the Kater family rest,
forgotten by today's world.

This article is written by



Scott E. Douglas
FRCNA, FCNRS, FONA, GKStE

Local / Special Coin Shows & Conventions

Go to for more shows and events: <http://canadiancoinnews.com/events/>

- **2015-June 14, Brantford Numismatic Society 54th Annual Coin Show**, Branlyn Community Centre, 9-3, free admission and parking, e-mail brantfordcoinclub@hotmail.com or call Cassidy Shroud at 519-427-6158.
- **2015-June 27-28, TOREX-Canada's National Coin Show**, Hyatt Regency, 370 King St. West, Toronto, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-3, Admission \$7 (under 16 free), e-mail brian@torex.net or visit <http://www.torex.net>.
- **2015-July-22-26, Halifax, Royal Canadian Numismatic Association Convention and Coin Show with Halifax & Regional Coin Club**, visit www.rcna.ca for details and registration.
- **2015-September 20, London Numismatic Society 23rd Annual Coin Show**, Ramada Inn, 817 Exeter Road (off hwy. 401), London, 9-4, Admission \$2, e-mail tedleitch@hotmail.ca or phone 519-472-9679.

CANADIAN
COIN NEWS



*A few pictures from our
amazing Spring Show!!!*



GUELPH

www.southwellingtoncoinsociety.ca



South Wellington Coin Society

Annual Fall Show
Saturday, SEPTEMBER 26th, 2015
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

*** BUY * SELL * TRADE * EVALUATIONS ***
AT OVER 35 DEALER TABLES

Admission Only \$3 (free under age 16):
includes Draw for a Gold Coin!
Lunch Counter, Free Parking, Wheelchair
Access

Location: Branch 234—Colonel John McCrae Memorial Legion
57 Watson Parkway South, Guelph, On. N1L 1E3

Wide Variety: Foreign and Canadian Coins, Medals, Tokens, Banknotes,
Script, Canadian Tire Coupons, Coin Supplies
and More. Something for Everyone!



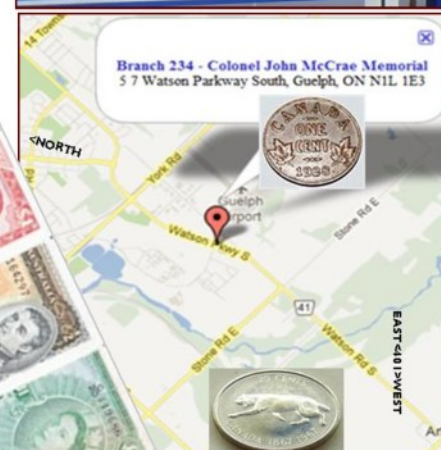
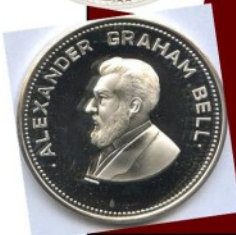
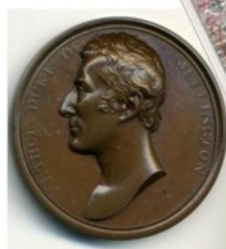
Mark Your Calendar For Our Other Upcoming Shows

FIRST Saturday in May
FOURTH Saturday in September

all held at Branch 234— Colonel John McCrae Memorial Legion:

Spring:
May 7, 2016
May 6, 2017
May 5, 2018

Fall:
September 24, 2016
September 23, 2017
September 22, 2018



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Volume 18, Issue 2, Wellington Circular

	South Wellington Coin Society Wed., June 3rd, 2015 Auction Sheet	Trends / Mkt	Reserve	Your Bid	Winning Bid
1	2009 Australia "Year of the Ox" Lunar 1 ounce .9999 Silver, 45.6mm, 31.536gm, BU	\$60.00	\$22.00		
2	1953- 1983 Barbados "30th Anniversary QEII Coronation" \$25, Silver 1/2 ounce, ICCS MS-64, only 2,951 minted	\$85.00	\$23.00		
3	1886 USA \$1, .900 Silver .77344 ounce Morgan, ICCS AU-50 (cleaned)	\$35.00	\$18.00		
4	1948 Malaya George VI, 10 Cents, ICCS EF-45, Copper-Nickel (note: certification cost not factored in, so a real deal)	proceeds to club	\$0.50		
5	1942 France 50 Centimes, ICCS AU-50, Aluminum (note: certification cost not factored in, so a real deal)	proceeds to club	\$0.25		
6	1924D Germany Weimar Republic Drei Mark, .500 Silver .2396 ounce, ICCS EF-40	\$130.00	\$32.00		
7	1960 Austria Schilling, ICCS AU-55 (cleaned), Aluminum-Bronze (note: certification cost not factored in, so a real deal)	proceeds to club	\$0.50		
8	1950 Angola (Republic of Portugal) 50 Centavos "300th Anniversary - Revolution of 1648", ICCS AU-50, Nickel-	\$8.00	\$4.00		
9	1939 British West Africa George VI Shilling, ICCS VF-20 (cleaned), Nickel-Brass (note: certification cost not factored in, so a real deal)	proceeds to club	\$0.50		
10	1902 Great Britain .925 Silver .1671 ounce, Shilling, ICCS EF-40	\$70.00	\$22.00		
11	Netherland 1945 - 1970 10 Gulden .720 silver ASW .575 oz, 25th Anniversary of Independence	\$25.00	\$15.00		
12	Netherland 1903 Bronze 1/2 Cent (FV .005 Guilder) holed	?	\$1.00		
13	Netherland East Indie 1945 P 1/10 Gulden .720 silver	\$2.50	\$1.00		
14	Rwanda 1987 Bronze Five Francs Coin, Coffee Tree Branch Obverse	\$3.00	\$1.50		
15	Uganda 1966 3 coins Coppwe-Nickel 1 Shilling, Copper-Nickel 50 Cents and Bronze 5 Cents	?	\$1.50		
16	Newfoundland 1941C .925 Silver 5 Cents	\$5.00	\$2.00		
17	Newfoundland 1943C .925 Silver 5 Cents	\$6.00	\$3.00		
18	Canada Lot of 16, 5 Cents 1922 to 1943 all different	?	\$6.00		
19	Canada 2013 25 Cents, Heroes of 1812 Charles Michel de Salaberry, pair (one coloured, one plain)	?	\$2.50		
20	Canada 2002 25 Cents Olympic Gold Medalist Men's Hockey Masculin (coloured, engraved)	\$4.50	\$2.00		
21	Canada 1919 .925 Silver 5 Cents	\$3.00	\$1.50		
22	Canada 1920 .800 Silver 5 Cents	\$3.00	\$1.50		
23	Canada 1956 .800 Silver Dollar	?	\$15.00		
24	Canada 1972 .500 Silver Voyageur Dollar	?	\$15.00		
25	Canada 1888 C2 Large Cent .950 Copper	\$5.00	\$2.50		
26	Canada 1876 Large Cent .950 Copper (which type is it: C1 SP; C1 NI; C1; C1 RP T&A?)	\$6.00	\$3.00		
27	World coins page of 20 different coins	?	\$7.00		
28	Canada page of 20 different Five Cents 1922 - 1946	?	\$5.00		
29	Lot of 3: Canada 25 Cents - 2 coloured, 1 not Klassen & Men's Hockey	?	\$3.00		
30	Canada 1910 .925 Silver 25 Cents	\$12.00	\$6.00		
31	Canada 1935 .800 Silver 25 Cents	\$8.00	\$4.00		
32	Canada 1934 .800 Silver 10 Cents	\$10.00	\$5.00		
33	Canada 1751 - 1951 Cronstedt / Nickel Refinery Commemorative 12-sided 5 Cents, composition 1.00 nickel	?	\$1.00		
34	Canadian Tire 2010 Limited Edition Sandy McTire Dollar Coin (minted by the RCM for CTC)	?	\$1.25		
35	Canada 1915 Large Cent, .950 Copper	\$6.00	\$3.00		
36	Canada Lot of 4 (1970, 1984 x 2, 1982): 3 nickel commemorative dollars and a nickel half dollar	?	\$3.00		
37	U.S.A. 1922 (S or D?) .900 Silver Peace Dollar	\$28.00	\$18.00		
38	U.S.A. 1972d Kennedy Half Dollar, Copper-Nickel-Clad Copper	?	\$1.00		
39	Australia 1994, 5 Dollar coin bimetallic (Aluminum-Bronze inner, Stainless Steel outer) "100 Years..."	\$11.00	\$5.50		
40	1968 Aluminum token, Hernando De Soto Landed in Bradenton (Florida) (silver coloured)	\$6.00	\$3.00		



Did you know Cdn Tire employs over 57,000?

